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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 46

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY

Danice Picraux

A JOINT MEMORIAL

**REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO CREATE AN
INTERIM SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE.**

**WHEREAS, New Mexico has an important history in science
and technology and remains one of the nation's principal
sources of cutting-edge technologies; and**

**WHEREAS, New Mexico regularly leads the nation in per
capita research and development spending and per capita
population of Ph. D. scientists and engineers, but is among the
lowest in per capita income; and**

**WHEREAS, the future of a successful technology-based
economy in New Mexico depends on the interaction of federal,
state and local resources and the leveraging of those
resources; and**

WHEREAS, many other states with fewer science and

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1 technology resources than New Mexico have developed strategic
2 plans for science and technology that have provided guidance to
3 policymakers and business leaders; and

4 WHEREAS, in 2001, the national science foundation made New
5 Mexico part of its experimental program to stimulate
6 competitive research; and

7 WHEREAS, the national science foundation's experimental
8 program to stimulate competitive research promotes the
9 development of a state's science and technology resources
10 through partnerships involving a state's universities,
11 industries and government and the federal research and
12 development apparatus; and

13 WHEREAS, the national science foundation's experimental
14 program to stimulate competitive research operates on the
15 principle that aiding researchers and institutions in securing
16 federal funding will develop a state's research infrastructure
17 and advance economic growth, and its goal is to maximize the
18 potential that is inherent in a state's science and technology
19 resources and use those resources as a foundation for economic
20 growth; and

21 WHEREAS, the governor of New Mexico charged the state's
22 experimental program to stimulate competitive research
23 committee with developing a state strategic plan for science
24 and technology; and

25 WHEREAS, for many years, the legislature of the state of

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1 New Mexico has been concerned with economic and rural
2 development with the goals of job creation, improvement in per
3 capita income and improved quality of life for New Mexicans;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, legislative consideration of the elements of a
6 state science and technology plan is critical;

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
8 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council be
9 requested to create an interim science and technology
10 committee; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico legislative
12 council be requested to direct the interim committee to develop
13 legislative input for a state science and technology plan by
14 studying the state's development of technology and space-
15 related industries, issues surrounding technology transfer and
16 commercialization by the state's public institutions, issues
17 surrounding education, including science and mathematics
18 education, the state's work force and how rural communities can
19 benefit from science and technology; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
21 transmitted to the co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative
22 council.